

What is claimed is:

1. A retroreflective article comprising:
 - (a) a layer of optical elements comprising:
 - 5 (i) a first set of exposed-lens optical elements having an embedded portion and a first reflective layer disposed on the embedded portion; and
 - (ii) a second set of exposed-lens optical elements having an embedded portion;
 - 10 (b) a light-transmissible spacing layer having first and second surfaces, the first surface disposed adjacent to the embedded portions of the first set and second set of optical elements; and
 - (c) a second reflective layer disposed on the second surface of the spacing layer.
- 15 2. The article of claim 1, wherein the first and second set of optical elements have ~~/~~similar average properties selected from the group consisting of average diameter, refractive index, specific gravity, and combinations thereof.
- 20 3. The article of claim 2, wherein the refractive index of the first and second sets of optical elements are in the range of about 1.86 to about 2.0.
4. The article of claim 1, wherein the first set of optical elements has a refractive index in the range of about 1.86 to 2.0 and the second set of optical elements
25 has a refractive index of about 1.90 to 2.1.
5. The article of claim 1 wherein the spacing layer cups around the first and second set of optical elements.
- 30 6. The article of claim 1, wherein the spacing layer has a refractive index in the range of about 1.4 to 1.7.